

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING  
*of the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
*and the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 24, 2001

**1. Call to order.**

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Michael Berger at 7:45 p.m. on September 24, 2001, at Webster Elementary School, 3602 Winter Canyon Road, Malibu, California 90265.

**2. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: David Allgood, Elizabeth Cheadle, Arthur Eck, Russell Guiney, Hall Ross, Steve Treanor, Jonathan Zasloff, Jerome Daniel and Michael Berger, Chair. The following members arrived subsequent to roll call: Jerome Daniel, Vice Chair. The following members were absent: Edward Albert, Ed Begley, Jr., Steve Horn, and Mary Nichols. Quorum present.

The following Legislative members were present: Mary Sue Maurer, Susan McEntire, Scott Svonkin, and Laura Plotkin. The following Legislative members were absent: Senator Gloria Romero.

**3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.**

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Clare Marter Kenyon, Dr. Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Don Robinson, Paul Rockenstein, Bruce Saito, Thomas Seifert, Nancy Steele, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant, Kenneth Warner, Timothy Wendler, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Alan Kishbaugh, Chair. The following members arrived subsequent to roll call: Colleen Briner-Schmidt. The following members were absent: Bruce Crow, Leslie Devine, Thomas Hasse, Terre Hirsch, and Mark Johnson. Quorum present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Belinda Faustinos, Chief Deputy Director; Rorie Skei, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer of Education, Interpretation, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA); Walt Young, Chief Ranger, MRCA; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel, MRCA; Kathleen Bullard, Director of Los Angeles River Center, MRCA; Stephanie Landregan, Staff Landscape Architect, MRCA; Marc Shores, Project Analyst, MRCA; Judy Tamasi, Project Analyst, MRCA; Leigh McAllister, Assistant to the Executive Director; and James Yeramian, Board Secretary, MRCA.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Mr. Richard Gould as the representative of the City of Santa Clarita on the Advisory Committee.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Mr. Kevin Rudiger as the designee of Hon. Jackie Goldberg.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Mr. David Allgood as the ex officio member appointed by the California Coastal Commission.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Fran Pavley.

#### **4. Minutes**

The open session minutes of May 14, 2001, and June 25, 2001 were submitted for approval.

The open session minutes of May 14, 2001, and June 25, 2001 were approved as submitted.

#### **5. Reports**

A report was given by Michael Berger introducing Jody Cook.

A report was given by Russel Guiney introducing Steve White.

#### **6. Special Recognition of Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority staff members Zenia Bray, Diana Hartmann, and David Updike.**

The Executive Director made comments.

#### **7. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.**

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Caroline Brown, representing the Sierra Madre Mountains Conservancy.  
Roger Pugliese, representing the Topanga Association for a Scenic Community, on item 9.  
Gordon Murley, representing the Woodland Hills Homeowners Association, on items 7 and 8(k).  
Maria Chong-Castillo, representing Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, on item 9.  
Tim Allyn, representing the Sierra Club, on consent item F.

**8. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a recreational trail use study to be administered by the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.\***
- (b) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize the National Park Service to demolish such structures as maybe necessary for public safety on property commonly known as the Randa site, Los Angeles County.\***
- (c) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority adopt a Youth at Risk employment plan consistent with the requirements of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (Prop A).\***
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of license and easement to Julie Hsiao for entry on Temescal Gateway Park for slope repair at boundary of 1247 Rimmer Drive and Temescal Gateway Park.\***
- (e) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize a one-year lease extension to the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency for Broome Ranch/Rancho Portrero Open Space, Newbury Park.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to join the California Wild Heritage Campaign, to support the Federal designation of appropriate Southern California wilderness complexes by the United States Congress, and to send a letter to Senator Barbara Boxer requesting her support for these efforts.**

- (g) Consideration of resolution amending Conservancy's Land Acquisition Workprogram, La Canada Flintridge-Coutin listing, to include additional acreage in Hall Beckley Canyon.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept a donation of plus or minus 2 acres of land (APN's 5464-002-053; 5464-007-043) on Sea View Avenue and Jack Smith Trail in the Mount Washington area of City of Los Angeles; in recognition and honor of Bob Scholfield.**
- (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter on Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for proposed Canyon Park Specific Plan, Fair Oaks Ranch, Tentative Tract Nos. 52938/52833, Santa Clara River Watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (j) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority execute an agreement with the Resources Agency for additional reimbursable services to the Resources Agency.**
- (k) Consideration of resolution authorizing an amendment of grant SMM-881 to include acquisition and improvements to the Mulholland Gateway-21000 property and advance of funds as may be necessary to complete the project.**
- (l) Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter on Draft Environmental Impact Report Recirculation Document, Cultural Resources and Project Alternatives, for Maranatha High School project, City of Sierra Madre.**
- (m) Consideration of resolution authorizing the Chair to name a committee of Conservancy, Advisory Committee and/or staff members to hold public hearings in local communities as required for Proposition 13 grant applications and /or Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000 proposed donations.**
- (n) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Arroyo Seco Foundation for additional work on the Arroyo Seco Watershed Plan**
- (o) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept Los Angeles County Proposition A excess funds on behalf of North East Trees.**

- (p) **Consideration of resolution: 1) exercising right of first refusal to acquire tax defaulted properties in Los Angeles County pursuant to Division 1, Part 6, Chapter 8 of the Revenue and Taxation Code and Section 33207 of the Public Resources Code that are: a) contained within Chapter 8 Agreement Nos. 1977, 1990, 2001, 2003, 2020, 2064, 2065, 2083, 2102, 2103, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, b) those reserved by the Conservancy at the County's 2001B Public Tax Auction, and c) APN 2816-015-006; 2) authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) to acquire all, or in part, said properties, and 3) recommending that the MRCA accept donations and public funding to acquire said properties.**
- (q) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the transfer of all currently exercised rights to acquire Los Angeles County tax defaulted parcels through Chapter 8 sales to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.**

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 01-144 through 01-160.

*(The full text of these resolutions is attached.)*

- 9. **Consideration of resolution(s) authorizing the following actions related to Upper Tuna Canyon, APN's 4448-005-033 & 034, 4448-029-029, 4448-030-017, 021, 022, 023, 024; 4449-011-001; 4449-016-009, City of Malibu and County of Los Angeles.\***
  - (a) **Addition of Tuna Canyon parcels to the Proposition A workprogram and application for Proposition A funds.**
  - (b) **Adoption of Tuna Canyon Project Plan.**
  - (c) **Acceptance of a donation of plus or minus 1,175 acres by application to the Wildlife Conservation Board pursuant to the Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000.**
  - (d) **Authorizing of a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for acquisition of 340 acres of Upper Tuna Canyon.**
  - (e) **Recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept additional funding for this project.**
  - (f) **Authorizing certification pursuant to Provision 2 of Item 3810-001-0140 of Budget Act of 2001. .**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 01-161(a), 01-161(b), 01-161(c), 01-161(d), 01-161(e), and 01-161(f).

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded to staff by Mr. Berger.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, and Mr. Brown.

Questions were propounded by Dr. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle.

Comments were made by Mr. Ross.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by Ms. Pavley, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Plotkin, and Messrs. Daniel, Guiney, and Allgood.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 01-161(a), 01-161(b), 01-161(c), 01-161(d), 01-161(e), and 01-161(f).

**10. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for acquisition of the Zanja Madre Park Parcel (Cornfields), City of Los Angeles.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Kenyon, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-162.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Messrs. Guiney, Kishbaugh, and Rudiger.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Treanor, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-162.

- 11. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for Proposition A funds for projects located within the Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Greenways.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-163.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Eck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-163.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

- 12. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for Proposition A funds for education and interpretation programs at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, the Los Angeles River and Arroyo Seco Greenways.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report on this item.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Briner-Schmidt, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-164.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Treanor, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-164.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**13. Consideration of resolution approving a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in augmentation of the donation from Lottie Melhorn for improvements at Heavenly Pond, Franklin Canyon.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-165.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-165.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Conejo Recreation and Park District for restoration and improvements at the Joel McCrea Ranch park site, Thousand Oaks.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-166.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Guiney, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-166.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**15. Consideration of resolution recommending that the MRCA accept donations and to use the funds to acquire an option on APN 2274-025-001, at the terminus of Camino de la Cumbre Place adjacent to Fossil Ridge Park, City of Los Angeles.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-167.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:



On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-167.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Simi Valley on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Alamos Canyon Interchange on the 118 Freeway.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos, Mr. Edelman, and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos regarding amendment of comment letter.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Kishbaugh.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-168 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-168 as amended.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**19. Legislation: Consideration of resolution authorizing the Executive Director to submit enrolled bill reports on legislation affecting the Division 23 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise having an impact on the Santa Monica Mountains Zone.\***

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Berger.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos and Ms. Pavley.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 01-169.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Eck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 01-169.

- 20. Closed Session:** (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Village Properties v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Save Open Space v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; *Save Open Space v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Real Parties in Interest)*; *Tucker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.*; *City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Malibu-Encinal Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Lechuza Villas West, LLP, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy et al.*; *Los Amigos de Caballero Canyon v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Nervik v. State of California*; *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America*; *Sierra Club et al. v. County of Los Angeles*; *State of California, ex. rel. Andrea Tuttle, Director of Department of Forestry and Fire Protection v. Southern California Edison Company.*

The Chair called a closed session at 9:30 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) for item 8.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 9:44 p.m.

- 21. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on October 17, 2001.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP  
Executive Director

MICHAEL BERGER  
Chairperson